Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2001 TO DECEMBER 7, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Canadian Gross Domestic Product	September			Canadian Gross Domestic Product fell 0.8% in September, the eighth month in the past twelve in which the economy failed to advance. Goods-producing industries fell sharply in September (-1.5%), as monthly declines were reported in the mining and oil and gas, utilities, and manufacturing industries. Manufacturing was especially weak, with 18 of 21 sectors reporting declines. Services-producing industries (-0.5%) fared slightly better, with output of only 7 of 13 industries falling in September. Over all industries, the July-September quarterly growth was the weakest seen since the first quarter of 1991.
(1997 $ millions)	929,685	-0.8%	-0.6%	
Building Permits	October			The value of building permits in Canada increased 1.0% in October, and is up 8.7% on a year-to-date basis. The value of non-residential permits rose by 0.1%, while residential permits increased by 1.7%. Alberta's monthly 13.3% decrease in building permits reflects a 10.9% decrease in the residential sector following three months of gains, and a decrease of 16.6% in the non-residential sector. On a year-to-date basis, building permits are up 7.3% in Alberta.
($ millions)				
Alberta	459.5	-13.3%	-10.0%	
Canada	3,269.8	1.0%	3.5%	
Canadian Help-Wanted Index	November			The last seven months have seen consecutive declines in the Canadian help-wanted index, including 5.0% in November. No province showed an increase. Prince Edward Island (-6.7%), British Columbia (-6.3%) and Nova Scotia (-5.3%) had the largest declines. Year over year, the national index is down 24.4%. The help-wanted index is considered a leading indicator of labour demand.
(1996 = 100)				
Alberta	157	-4.3%	-10.8%	
Canada	133	-5.0%	-24.4%	